

3701 Cimwood Dr.
Harvey, LA 70058-1618

CR
G

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ WAIVER REQUEST
☐ RECONSIDERATION REQUEST

DATE: 7/26/2021
DOCKET #:

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Veleria "Val" Stevens
Office: Member of School Board, District 1
Parish: JEFFERSON
Election Date: 3/20/2021
Level of Office: District

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 30-P
Original Due Date: 2/18/2021
Date Filed: 6/29/2021
Activity Receipts: \$0
Expenditures: \$0
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$0

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$2,000
Days Late: 131
Late Fee Order Received: 5/27/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 6/16/2021
Waiver Request Received: 6/3/2021
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Candidate faxed in her waiver request and states that she qualified for the election on the last day. Two days following her qualifying she was served a notice that she was not in the district to run and was disqualified. She had not collected any contributions or had any expenditures. She said this has been disturbing for this to happen when she was not able to properly run for any type of office or seat. She said she filed the 30-P report but according to previous statements, it stated that she did not have to file a campaign report if she did not run or receive funds for the campaign.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No
Reassessed Late Fees: No

Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No

Veleria Stevens
3701 Cimwood Dr
Harvey, LA 70058

Re: Late Fee assessment for the March 20, 2021 Election
Certified Mail No. 70200640000079860364

REQUEST FOR A WAIVER

Dear Ms. Horn:

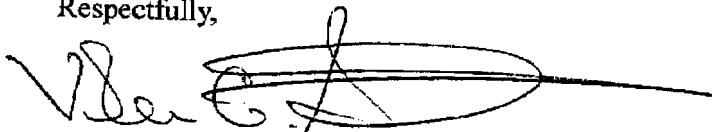
I am in receipt of a letter I received without my signature for return receipt; it was placed in the mail. The letter indicated that I failed to file the necessary documents pertaining to the recent elections. Please be advised that I entered the race on Jan. 31, 2021 (the last day to enter). Two days following me entering into the race, I was served with a notice placed in my mailbox indicating I was not in the district to run.

Before I could do anything, I was served with papers and fees stating that I was disqualified (hand delivered). No actions have been done to date regarding campaigns, monies earned, fundraisers etc. In addition, I received a letter from an attorney stating that he represented me for failure to attend a court date that I never received. Needless to say; this has been disturbing for all of this to happen when I wasn't able to properly run for any type of office or seat.

In closing, please accept this letter as *my plea to waive charges that were outlined in your letter attached*. The letter is dated May 25, 2021 but received on May 31, 2021. If you need to speak with me personally, I can be reached at; 504-452-0942. I will submit the 30P according to **LS. R.S. 18:1495.4B(3)** as requested. According to previous statements, it stated that I did not have to file a campaign report if I did not run or received funds or the campaign. No funds were received and no money was disbursed other than the filing on Jan. 31, 2021 to run for a seat that I was never allowed to.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Respectfully,



Veleria C. Stevens

Encl.



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

May 25, 2021

Ms. Veleria "Val" Stevens
3701 Cimwood Dr.
Harvey, LA 70058-1618

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70200640000079860364

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the March 20, 2021 Election
30-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report

Dear Ms. Stevens:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$2,000 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

Also, in addition to payment of the late fee, you are required to file your 30-P campaign finance disclosure report within 20 days of receipt of the enclosed order. If you do not file the report, this matter will be referred to the Ethics Board for further action pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4), which allows for an assessment of an additional \$10,000 penalty after a hearing before the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

With respect to the late fee assessed, you have 20 days from receipt of this letter to pay the late fee or to dispute the assessment by electing to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel of administrative law judges. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you do not pay or dispute the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
acting in its capacity as the
SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re: Veleria "Val" Stevens / March 20, 2021 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Veleria "Val" Stevens, in her capacity as a candidate for Member of School Board, District 1 in the March 20, 2021 election was a district level candidate and required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

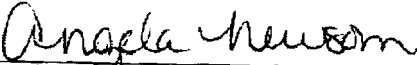
WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(3), Veleria "Val" Stevens was required to file a 30th Day Prior to Primary Report (30-P) by February 18, 2021. To date, the 30-P campaign finance disclosure report has not been filed, which automatically imposes the maximum penalty to be assessed for each report that is delinquent.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(ii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$60 per day (not to exceed \$2,000) be assessed against Veleria "Val" Stevens for each day the report is not timely filed.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$2,000 is assessed against Veleria "Val" Stevens for failure to timely file the 30-P campaign finance disclosure report.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Veleria "Val" Stevens file a 30-P campaign finance disclosure report for the March 20, 2021 election, within 20 days of receipt of this order.

ORDER signed on the 25th day of May 2021 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Angela Newsom, Director
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division

FAX COVER SHEET

RECIPIENT:

TO: Melissa Hoen or ATten: Ethics Board of

FAX NUMBER: (225) 381-7271

SENDER:

FROM: Velecia Stevens

PHONE: (504) 452-0942

TOTAL PAGES 4 (including cover sheet)

DATE: 6/3/21

MESSAGE:

Please see the attached.
I can be reached at (504) 452-0942



Unknown @Port 9100

06/03/2021 4:29 PM

Start Page

Xerox® VersaLink™ B405DN Multifunction Printer

Veleria Stevens
3701 Cimwood Dr
Harvey, LA 70058

Re: Late Fee assessment for the March 20, 2021 Election
Certified Mail No. 70200640000079860364

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In closing, please accept this letter as *my plea to waive charges that were outlined in your letter attached*. The letter is dated May 25, 2021 but received on May 31, 2021. If you need to speak with me personally, I can be reached at; 504-452-0942. I will submit the 30P according to **LS. R.S. 18:1495.4B(3)** as requested. According to previous statements, it stated that I did not have to file a campaign report if I did not run or received funds or the campaign. No funds were received and no money was disbursed other than the filing on Jan. 31, 2021 to run for a seat that I was never allowed to.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Respectfully,


Veleria C. Stevens

Encl.

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
JUN 14 21 AM 3:07

FAX COVER SHEET

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TO: Melissa Hoen or Atten: Ethics ^{Board of}

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TOTAL PAGES 4 (including cover sheet)

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Assigned File ID: _____
Date Organized: _____

ELECTRONIC FILING AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, undersigned Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the State and Parish aforesaid, therein residing, personally came and appeared:

Veleria C. Stevens
Affiant's Name (Typed or Printed)

504-452-0942
Affiant's Telephone Number

3701 Cimwood Dr. Slidell, LA 70588
Affiant's Address (as should be listed on electronically filed reports)

Who, being duly sworn, declared that :

1. Affiant is a public servant required to file a personal financial disclosure statement.
2. Affiant authorizes reports to be electronically filed with Louisiana Board of Ethics.
3. Use of the password issued pursuant to this affiant to submit reports represents Affiant's certification to the accuracy of all information contained in such a reports.

Affiant further declared that:

_____ Affiant will be the only individual authorized to use the Electronic Filing Password to submit reports electronically to the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

_____ Affiant authorizes the following report preparer(s) to use the Electronic Filing Password to submit reports electronically to the Louisiana Board of Ethics:

Veleria C. Stevens
Name of Preparer (Type or Print name)

504.452.0942
Telephone Number

Veleria@tulane.edu
E-Mail Address

Name of Preparer (Type or Print name)

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address

Veleria C. Stevens
Affiant's Signature

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, this 14th day of June, 2021.

Gayle P. Letulle
Notary Public (sign)

Gayle P. Letulle
Notary Public (Type of Print name)

08534
Notary/Bar Roll Number

Please file the completed form with the Louisiana Board of Ethics by mail at:

Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, La 70821

Gayle P. Letulle
Notary Public
State of Louisiana
Affirmation of Commission
Notary Public No. 08534

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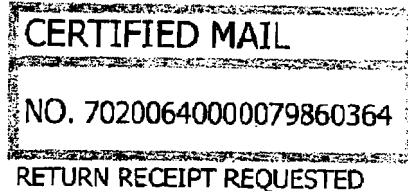


STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

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May 25, 2021

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3701 Cimwood Dr.
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Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

FAX COVER SHEET

RECIPIENT: C/O Board of Ethics

TO: Melissa Horn

FAX NUMBER: (225) 381-7271

SENDER:

FROM: Veloria C. Stevens

PHONE: (504) 452-0942

TOTAL PAGES 4 (including cover sheet)

DATE: 6/16/21

MESSAGE:

Please forward the 30P
form as previously indicated.

Thanks

Veloria C. Stevens



Unknown @Port 9100

06/16/2021 9:07 AM

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